

1. (Once Amended) A cook top including at least one heating means beneath a substantially colourless and transparent ceramic glass surface with an opaque layer on sections of the underside thereof and a status indicator, said status indicator comprising:

indication means positioned directly underneath said surface proximate to said heating means wherein said opaque layer is not present directly above said indication means, allowing said indication means to be visible directly above said cook top, and control means configured to determine the temperature of said surface above said heating means and energise said indication means when said surface above said heating means is above a predetermined temperature and de-energises said indication means when said surface above said heat means is below said predetermined temperature.

2. (Once Amended) A cook top according to claim 1 wherein said control means comprises an electric circuit fed from a transformer less supply.

3. (Once Amended) A cook top according to claims 1 or 2 wherein the colour emitted by said indication means is dependent on whether said heating region is energised.

4. (Once Amended) A cook top according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein said indication means is at least one light emitting diode.

5. (Once Amended) A cook top according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein said control means includes heat sensing means positioned in close proximity to said heating means, the electrical characteristics of which are temperature dependent.

6. (Once Amended) A cook top according to claim 5 wherein said heat sensing means is a bimetallic switch.

7. (Once Amended) A cook top according to claim 5 wherein said heating sensing means is a thermistor.

8. (Once Amended) A cook top according to claim 5 wherein said heating sensing means is a positive temperature coefficient paste coated on the underside of said surface or said opaque layer.

9. (Once Amended) A cook top according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said predetermined temperature is the maximum temperature for which human skin can safely be exposed to.

10. (Once Amended) A cook top according to any one of claims 1 to 8 wherein said predetermined temperature is 50°C.